1867MNRAS..27..277.

Practical Astronomy in its applications to Geography and Navigation, and to afford opportunities for the practice of the determination of geographical positions. And in a subsequent paragraph the obligation is imposed upon it, as a central Institution, to exercise a control over the works undertaken by the remaining Observatories of the Empire, so that science may derive therefrom the greatest possible benefit. And these are substantially the objects under the present statute, formally confirmed on the 14th August, 1862, but which has been partly in operation since the year 1857. By this statute the staff was augmented, the Institution placed directly under the Minister of Public Instruction, and a "Comité" instituted analogous to the Greenwich Board of Visitors.

The volume contains notices of the Personal of the Institution; it is mentioned that Mr. Otto Struve is the only one of the officials who has been in the Observatory uninterruptedly from its foundation. The directorship of W. Struve, in his full vigour, continued till the year 1857; during the next two years, on his partial retirement from commencing ill health, Mr. Otto Struve was Vice-Director; and upon his final retirement in 1861, Mr. Otto Struve became Director. The bulk of the volume is occupied with a survey of the work of the Observatory during the 25 years under the three heads,—I. Astronomy; II. Geography and Geodesy; III. Instruction. It concludes with a Catalogue of the published writings of the Pulkova Astronomers during the period in question (1839 to 1864). These include Stellar Astronomy, 1 to 48; Observation and Investigations on the Solar System, 49 to 89; Practical Astronomy, 90 to 103; Geodesy, 104 to 124; Geographical Position-determinations, 125 to 139, and History, Bibliography, Physical Investigations, &c., 139 to 159. It is needless to refer to the many well-known works by W. Struve, O. Struve, Peters, Döllen, Weisse, Winnecke, &c., &c., included in this enumeration.

Annals of the Dudley Observatory. Vol. i. 8vo. Albany, 1866.

The volume contains an account of the foundation of the Institution; a description of the Observatory and Instruments, by G. W. Hough, A.M., the Director; and an Appendix. The establishment of the Institution was first proposed, in 1851, by Dr. J. H. Armsby; a subscription was raised, a large part of which was contributed by Mrs. Blandina Dudley, widow of the Honourable C. E. Dudley, and it was thereupon resolved to give to the institution the name of the Dudley Observatory. The Act of Incorporation was granted by the Legislature of the State of New York, in March, 1852. The building was

1867MNRAS..27..277.

completed in 1854, on a site selected by Professor Mitchell, and from plans furnished by him. The Institution was inaugurated on the 28th of August, 1856, at the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. About 100,000 dollars was expended on the building, instruments, grounds, and other objects; and 50,000 dollars invested as a fund for the support of the Institution. The Observatory is situated in the north-western portion of the city of Albany, on an elevation about 150 feet above the mean tide in the Hudson River—the site being, probably, one of the best that could have been chosen in the vicinity of the city; easy of access, and at the same time remote enough to be free from every disturbing influence. The horizon is clear and unobstructed in every direction; and the position is such as to preclude all possibility of interference if in future years the adjoining lands should be occupied for building purposes. In the plane of the meridian there is an uninterrupted view to the south for more than twelve miles. Advantage has been taken of this for the establishment of two meridian marks, distant six and twelve miles respectively. The grounds comprise about eight acres, and include the whole of the more elevated portion of the hill, which slopes off gradually in every direction. Two lithographic views are given, a distant and a near one; and there is also a plan of the grounds, and a ground-plan of the Observatory.

The principal instruments are,—

Equatoreal Refractor, by Mr. Fitz of New York; the object-glass 13 inches clear aperture; the focal length 15 feet 2 inches;

Olcot Meridian Circle, by Pistor and Martins;

Transit Instrument, by same makers;

Comet Seeker, by Alvan Clark; of 3 feet 6 inches focal length, and 4 inches clear aperture;

Chronograph, invented by Professor Mitchell, made by Messrs. Foster and Twitchet, Cincinnati;

Declinometer, invented by Professor Mitchell, by the same makers;

Charting Machine, made by Mr. Fasoldt, of Albany;

Automatic Registering and Printing Barometer, invented by Mr. Hough;

Swedish Calculating Machine of G. and E. Scheutz, purchased for the Observatory in the year 1856;

all elaborately described in the volume, with perspective views and drawings of the various details.

The Appendix comprises the Act of Incorporation, Board of Trustees, List of Donors, Catalogue of the Library, the Directors' Reports for the years 1862-63-64, and 65: and observations of the Planets *Mars* and *Neptune*, of several of the Minor Planets, and of Comets.

1867MNRAS..27Q.279.

Addition to the Obituary Notice of Dr. Whewell, contained in the last Annual Report, see p. 113.

Among Dr. Whewell's works ought to have been mentioned the invention of an Anemometer for measuring the speed of the wind and registering it with reference to the direction of the wind. This instrument was in use at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, for several years; till it was superseded by Dr. Robinson's; an instrument of superior mechanical construction and greater accuracy of register, but wanting the valuable indication of direction of the wind.

To be Sold.

The property of a Fellow removing.

A well-constructed wooden Observatory, with revolving polygonal dome, the internal diameter of which is about 9 feet.

Also a completely-mounted 4-inch Cooke Equatoreal on Iron-pillar.

Application to be made to G. F. Chambers, Esq., Junior Carlton Club, 16 Regent Street, W.

ERRATA

in last month's *Monthly Notices.*

Page 240, line 3, *for* Moon or *read* Mass of.

240, in formula, *for* n^2 *read* u^2.

240, line 22, *for* log n *read* log u.

241, *for*

$$\varpi = 0{\cdot}01662 + 6{\cdot}50 \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{\mu} \right\},$$

read

$$\varpi = 0{\cdot}01662 \times 6{\cdot}50 \left\{ 1 + \frac{1}{\mu} \right\},$$

242, line 5, *for* constant *read* constants.

242, in note (*a*), *for* Sun's limit *read* Sun's limb.
